

Opponent: Cornell University Date: 9 Apr 06

Match: Navy 34 Cornell 0

Sunday morning saw a change of venues for the 2006 Cherry Blossom Tournament but a similar performance from the Mids. Cornell had upset Air Force to advance to the semifinals but the Gold Shirts seemed to care little. Early play saw the Navy march right down the field and put pressure on the Cornell goal line. Second class center Humara the Michael was first Midshipman to find the try zone when he slammed in from 3 meters out minutes into the half. Second class wing Chase Hobby converted for a quick 7 nil lead.

Navy was immediately forcing the game on Cornell and the action soon boiled over under the Cornell posts. Senior hooker Chris Gonzales was sin binned for punching and Navy was forced to rearrange their pack in scrums. The Midshipmen maintained pressure and scored short handed when plebe scrum half Kevin Dewey feed Hobby on the short side of the field. Hobby strode in, second class wing Adam Young converted, and Navy was up 14 nil. With Gonzales back on the field, Navy scored once before the half. Third class center Jordan Fogler shot through a gap in the Big Red backline off a stolen scrum and feed from second class fly half Kevin Peterson, no conversion (Navy 19 Cornell 0).

The second half saw Navy extend their lead almost immediately with a 50 meter penalty from Young, (Navy 22 Cornell 0). The Gold pack dominated all scrums and line outs leaving Cornell with little with which to construct a maintained attack. Strong mauling and rucking from the Navy pack lead to many holes just off the ruck for Navy forwards to blast through. Senior captain 8 man Jake Womble used one such hole for the next try after carrying defenders the last two meters to touch down, Hobby conversion (Navy 29 Cornell 0).

While the flow of play was disrupted with substations from Navy, control of the game never was. match was capped off with one more try for the Gold Shirts. More commanding runs by the forwards sucked in the Cornell defense and Young was sprung all the way wide on the right when skipped the centers Peterson eliminated the contracted Big Red defense, no conversion (Navy Cornell 0).

The final whistle left Navy to await the result of the University of Buffalo vs. Ohio State University match to see who they would meet to play in the championship match.

## **Scoring Stats:**

<u>Trys</u>

Fogler

Hobby

Humara

Young

Womble

**Penalties** 

None

Conversions made

Hobby x2

Young

Conversions missed

Hobby

Young

Cards

Gonzales

~Midn 1/C M. Quin Reporting